

EMS TRAINING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION MANUAL

Policy Number: T-505	Page: 1	of: 2
Title: EMS First Responder Certification Program Description		
Regulatory Authority: 12VAC5-31-1310, 12VAC5-31-1040		
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The EMS First Responder Training Program was developed to provide training in the provision of emergency care for those who are likely to be the first medical personnel responding to the scene of an accident, fire, or medical emergency. In defining the course scope and emphasis, it was determined that the individual needs to possess much of the same knowledge of patient care as the Emergency Medical Technician, but not the same equipment skill proficiency.

While patient care is not typically the EMS First Responder's primary responsibility, this training is appropriate for professionals such as firefighters, law enforcement officers, school bus drivers, postal employees, and large segments of industry such as miners or factory workers.

Since the EMS First Responder will not be routinely involved in patient transports, the course emphasizes development of skills in patient assessment and emergency medical care procedures while minimizing instruction in the use of equipment and medical supplies. Certified EMS First Responders may serve as the attendant-in-charge of a Non-Transport EMS Response Vehicle as required in **12VAC5-31 Part II** of state EMS regulations.

- A. **Performance Standards** - Upon successful completion of the training program, the student will be capable of performing the following functions:
1. Recognize the nature and seriousness of a patient's medical condition or injuries to assess the need for emergency medical care.
 2. Administer appropriate emergency medical care to stabilize the patient's condition until the arrival of higher trained individuals.
 3. Lift, move, position and otherwise handle the patient in a way as to minimize discomfort and further injury.
- B. **Course Topics** - The EMS First Responder curriculum will be the Virginia
- C. Standard Curriculum for the EMS First Responder (1997 edition) as approved by the Office.
- D. **Skills Proficiency** - With regard to equipment and material the EMS First Responder will be

trained and be proficient in all skills described in the Virginia Standard Curriculum for the EMS First Responder (1997 edition) approved by the Office. (See the "[Emergency Medical Services Procedures Schedule](#)" and the "[Emergency Medical Services Medication Schedule](#)" for specific essential and allowed optional skills for this certification level, if applicable.) **(See [T-200](#))**

- E. **Automated External Defibrillation** - EMS First Responders not affiliated with a licensed EMS agency or registered Early Defibrillation Service are not authorized to perform Automated External Defibrillation unless they practice under the direction of a licensed physician (as authorized by any applicable sections of the *Code of Virginia*).